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TELEGRAM

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## This or That

CPYRGHT

THE Central Intelligence Agency has been accused of having had student groups, labor unions and church organizations in its fold. Now, if what Cong. Alvin E. O'Konski (R-Mercer) says is true, the CIA may also have a congressman in its ranks.

O'Konski informed a gathering of his northern Wisconsin constituents over the weekend that he is an expert on the Vietnam War because "I am a member of the Central Intelligence Agency."

"I feel I am an expert qualified to give advice on the conflict there because I am a member of the Central Intelligence Agency," the congressman was quoted as saying in the Vilas County News-Review, published at Eagle River.

The Capital Times checked with Dan Satran, editor of the Eagle River newspaper, to make sure the quote was not a misprint. Satran insisted the congressman had made the statement.

The Wisconsin Republican, who has been sent to Washington by his district twelve times in a row, made the startling statement at Three Lakes Sunday night in a speech before the Polish Pioneers Club.

He told the gathering that Americans should listen to Gen. William Westmoreland's advice on the Vietnam conflict rather than Secretary of State Dean Rusk or Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara.

O'Konski informed his audience that Westmoreland gave him and other congressmen a "secret" briefing and explained "they have clearly established that the Viet Cong are continually encouraged by anti-war demonstrations in this country."

Washington officials were sure the congressmen must have made a mistake in claiming membership in the CIA.

"Perhaps he got mixed up during the speech," said one official.

The CIA was not available for comment.—The Capital Times